

FOR LAND'S SAKE

Volume 1, Issue 1

June 30, 2010

HAVE A HONEY OF A TIME AT THE LAFAYETTE COUNTY FAIR

Once again, the Land Conservation Department (LCD) will have a display at the Lafayette County Fair, July 14 - 18. The LCD, in cooperation with UW-Extension, will offer:

- Free water testing for nitrates. Those who would like to have their water tested should bring in a pint of clean well water at any time during the fair.

- Information on the importance of pollinators.

- Kids' Program on Saturday at 11:30 a.m.

- Our Annual Conservation Awards will be given out at Noon on Saturday.

- Information on the Working Lands Initiative (WLI), a program that has replaced Farmland Preservation will be available through-

out the fair.

- Again this year, we will be taking orders for rain barrels at the fair. Come and learn how they work.

"Have a Honey of a Time" at the Lafayette County Fair. Play some games or make a button, test

your water, and learn the "buzz" on pollinators and the new Working Lands Initiative.



For more information on any of these displays, please contact the LCD office.

WELCOME TO THE FIRST EDITION OF THE LAND CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER

This is the first attempt at an electronic-version of a quarterly newsletter for the Land Conservation Department. We hope to use it to keep you informed of deadlines and new happenings in the conservation department.

If you are interested please contact us at (608) 776-3836 to add your email to our list.

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Special points of interest:

- Welcome to Our First Edition & Join Our Electronic Mailing List
- LCD-UWEX Water Testing at the Commercial Building-Lafayette County Fair
- Conservation Awards
- Land Records Office
- Who We Are & How To Reach Us

LCD CONSERVATION AWARD WINNERS- SAT. JULY 17

Presentation of the Conservation Awards will be held at the Commercial Building on the Lafayette County Fair grounds on Saturday, July 17 at Noon. Those receiving awards are:

-Johnny & Carmen McDonald-Conservation Farmer Award

-Joel & Amanda Streich-Water Quality Award

-Dave & Sharan Ohnstad-Wildlife Habitat Development

-Geri U'ren-Friend of Conservation



Photos are: Streich McDonald U'ren Ohnstad



WORKING LANDS INITIATIVE

Farmland Preservation has been replaced by the Working Lands Initiative (WLI) starting in 2010. FPP tax credits, which averaged about \$3.33/ac., could be replaced by credits of \$5, \$7.50, or \$10 /acre with WLI.

As with FPP, you must be in compliance with a conservation farm plan that meets "T", a nutrient management plan on all crop acres, and you must follow the State Performance Standards.

For further details be sure to visit us at the LCD Fair booth in the Commercial Building. You may also call Roger Lange, WLI specialist, at (608) 776-3836 ext. 124, or visit the DATCP website at

<http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/workinglands/index.jsp>

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HERE'S OUR "HONEY-DO" LIST:

- LCD Booth At the Lafayette County Fair—July 14-18
- Water Testing at the Fair
- Conservation Award Presentations—Saturday, July 17 @ Noon
- WLI and AEA application—ongoing
- Sign Up for Nutrient Management Classes
- Rain Barrel Sales—Summer Special \$50
- Silver Springs Watershed - Landowner contacts & data collection



SUMMER SPECIAL— RAIN BARRELS FOR \$50



RAIN BARREL FUN FACTS

- * For every inch of rain that falls on a square foot of your roof, you can receive just over half a gallon of water (0.6 gallons of water).
- * The typical home (1,200 sq. ft. of roof) will fill a rain barrel with a 0.3" rain.
- * The average April-September rainfall in Lafayette County is 23.4".
- * A tablespoon of olive oil or a drop of dish soap in the barrel will prevent mosquitoes from hatching in the water.
- * Another mosquito preventative is to use a fine screen over the top.
- * It is a cost effective alternative to using tap water for watering yards and gardens.
- * A source of naturally "soft" water. Provides spot-free car washing.
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- * Applicable to all types of sites (residential/commercial/industrial).
- * Reduces peak volume and velocity of storm water runoff to streams and storm sewer systems.
- * Takes advantage of the already existing source of fresh rainwater.
- * Inexpensive to install and maintain

A source of naturally "soft" water. Provides spot-free car washing.

Order Your Rain Barrel Today

**Land Conservation Dept.
1900 Ervin Johnson Drive
Darlington, WI 53530**

(608) 776-3836



LAND RECORDS OFFICE

LAFAYETTE COUNTY LAND RECORDS MOD- ERNIZATION PROGRAM

In the late 80's, a group of futuristic minded County employees, county board members, and interested parties formed a coalition to address inclusion and implementation of a new County-wide Land Records Modernization Program and form an association with the Modernization Program already in place at the State level since 1985. A nine

county consortium was formed to collaborate efforts and receive tremendous discounts on orthophotography, hardware and software to start the program.

The Land Records Modernization Program is a statewide program with all 72 counties participating. In each County there is a Land Records Information / Geographical Information System Specialist who is responsible for developing a geographical

information system for their area. They prioritize necessary information and develop datasets to conform with pressing projects.

I will have an article of interest in each newsletter of a project we are currently working on.

Mary Jean Ritchie,
Land Records
Coordinator



The Point of Beginning
Lafayette Co., WI

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Department

For Land's Sake

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Back row: LCD Staff Al Brandt, Lisa Trumble, Roger Lange

Front row: LCD Nikki Larson, Land Records Mary Jean Ritchie

Upcoming Deadlines

- July 14-18 Lafayette County Fair - Free Nitrate Testing of Well Water each day.
- July 15 Last Day for Crop & CRP Acreage Reporting
- August 2—FSA County Committee Nominations due

